

## WILL NOT CONSOLIDATE.

## PLAN FOR BIG BANK HAS BEEN ABANDONED

Bank of Sumter and City National Will Not Unite as Contemplated—Directors Having Failed to Agree on Details of Plan.

From The Daily Item, Nov. 24.

The Board of Directors of the Bank of Sumter and of the City National Bank met this morning to consider the reports of their respective committees which had been working over the details of the plan of the proposed consolidation of the two banks. After discussing and considering the matter thoroughly it was decided not to proceed further with the matter of consolidation.

The presidents of the two banks gave out the following statement: "The question of the advisability of consolidating the Bank of Sumter and the City National Bank was referred by the respective boards of the two banks to a committee of three from each board to determine upon the details of the plan of consolidation. These committees after consideration of various phases of the matter failed to agree upon a plan and the question of consolidation was dismissed."

RICH. I. MANNING,  
Pres. Bank of Sumter.  
G. A. LEMMON,  
Pres. City National Bank.

The stockholders meeting of the Bank of Sumter called for noon tomorrow will be held at that hour to hear the report of the directors.

There will be a meeting of the stockholders of the City National Bank at eleven o'clock tomorrow.

Statement from Mr. Strauss.

To the Public:

Some weeks since, I suggested to Hon. R. I. Manning that a consolidation of the business of the City National Bank of Sumter and the Bank of Sumter be effected.

I am solely responsible for the suggestion and neither the officers, employees or directors of the City National Bank knew anything of the matter until its advisability had been determined by Mr. Manning and myself.

It is with regret that I am forced to announce the failure of the proposition. The respective boards of directors of the two institutions could not agree upon the location of the combined banks or a name for the institution.

There was no question as to the strength or standing of either bank and the prime object which I desired to accomplish was to establish one large bank capable of caring for the wants of its customers and patrons at a large saving of expense.

In making this statement I desire to make it plain that the proposition to consolidate did not emanate from either the City National Bank or its board of directors or the Bank of Sumter or its directors; it was suggested by me for the best interest of the stockholders and customers of both banks and I am a stockholder of both banks.

Respectfully,  
I. C. Strauss.

## KANGAROO COURT.

## New Atlanta Negro Prisoners Keep Themselves in Order.

Atlanta, Nov. 24.—In the Fulton county tower the winter season has brought about a revival of the "kangaroo court" before which every new prisoner must stand trial, and all this week the court did a rushing business. The judge is a big black negro prisoner, and the court attaches are all of an equally dusky hue. Every "new nigger" who arrives is immediately tried for the offense of breaking into jail, and is always convicted on prima facie evidence and set to sweeping the floors or doing other work.

The court has grown beyond a joke, however. It is a tribunal which imposes punishment for infractions of jail discipline and "sins inside." A prisoner caught stealing tobacco or food from another who refuses to do his share of the work is tried, convicted, sentenced, and taken down over a chair and given a rousing whipping. The order is far better since the court was inaugurated, jail officials say.

## RIOTS IN MEXICO CITY.

## Mobs Had Possession of the City Last Night.

Mexico City, Nov. 25.—Serious rioting occurred here last night. Mobs virtually took possession of the city. Stores were looted and there were numerous shooting affrays. The police were disarmed and severely beaten.

Apple wood, used almost exclusively for saw handles, also furnishes the material for many so-called briar-wood pipes and particularly for the large wooden type used in printing signs and posters.

## REDISCOUNT SOUTHERN PAPER

## RICHMOND RESERVE BANK TO BEGIN TOMORROW.

Pope Matthews of Columbia Finds Business Conditions in the North Improving.

Columbia State.

"Judging by the way the gold is coming into the reserve bank at Richmond, financial conditions are improving," said J. P. Matthews, cashier of the Palmetto National bank of Columbia, when he was asked yesterday about the situation in New York and Richmond, from which cities he had just returned.

Mr. Matthews said that the regional reserve bank of the Fifth district in Richmond would begin to rediscount paper for member banks tomorrow. The bank has received practically all of its share of the reserve as well as payments on stock from member banks. Rediscounting privileges have been availed of to a considerable extent in New York, Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City already. Elsewhere the showing is smaller. Beginning tomorrow, the banks in the Fifth reserve district in which South Carolina is located will have the same privileges as banks in the cities named above. Sixty-four banks in South Carolina are members now of the federal reserve bank at Richmond.

Federal reserve notes to meet local demands have been issued principally in Chicago, New York and Minneapolis.

The relatively small amount of rediscounts as compared with the resources of the system is due to the policy of the federal reserve board in encouraging the payment of reserve deposits in actual money instead of in rediscounted paper.

While visiting the federal reserve bank at Richmond, Mr. Matthews saw T. J. Goodwyn, former treasurer of the Guaranty Trust company of Columbia, who has a position in the discount department of the federal reserve bank.

## 55 ON DOOMED SHIP.

## Five Life Savers Perish on Way to Wreck.

San Francisco, Nov. 23.—Five members of a crew of life-savers trying to reach the steam schooner Hanalet, wrecked on Duxbury Reef, nine miles north of San Francisco, were drowned tonight.

Two of the Hanalet's crew were drowned late today while trying to make their way through the surf with lines. Two passengers swam to safety.

Advices received early tonight from steamers standing by the passenger schooner Hanalet, ashore on Duxbury Reef, stated that two bodies had come ashore, that the back of the vessel had been broken and that there was little hope of saving the remaining 55 passengers and crew still aboard.

Two of the Hanalet's boats upside down and a life raft, also were washed on the beach. The steam schooner lay a few hundred yards off shore blanketed in the fog, which led her on the reef and which shut off sight and sound alike.

Just at dusk a rift in the fog revealed a glimpse of the doomed vessel pounded by the surf. The wind brought indistinguishable cries from the passengers and crew.

The fog was so thick that persons five feet apart could not see each other and a little fleet of schooners and tugs which had been trying to get in touch with the Hanalet without themselves piling on the reef, drew off as night came on. One or two returned to San Francisco. A few remained near the scene, including the life saving crews from Fort Point and Point Bonita in their launches.

Unless the fog should lift, permitting rescuers to get a line aboard the vessel, men said there was slight chance for any one aboard.

## TROUBLE BETWEEN POWERS.

## Serious Dissensions Have Arisen Between Germany and Austria.

London, Nov. 23.—It is confirmed that serious dissensions have arisen between the Germans and Austrians," says the Morning Post's Petrograd correspondent.

"A stormy council under presidency of Emperor William was held at Breslau after the German flight from Poland. Germany demanded that Austria send every available man to the defense of East Prussia, arguing that there was no hope of saving the Austrian frontier. The Austrians, however, demanded that the Germans attempt to save Cracow.

"This council meeting was preceded by actual fighting between Austrian and German soldiers in the retreat. The encounter is said to have occurred after a large body of angry Austrians left the Germans and struck off on their line of retreat. The Germans sent detachments to bring them back. Both sides fired shots and the Austrians were overpowered. The German explanation later was that they exterminated mutinous troops."

## MEXICANS OCCUPY CITY.

## NEW MILITARY GOVERNOR IS POSITIVE.

Threatens Execution of Any One Who Undertakes to Disturb the Peace—Arms to be Surrendered.

Vera Cruz, Nov. 23.—Gen. Candido Aguilar, who succeeded Brig. Gen. Frederick Funston today as military governor of Vera Cruz, did not mince words when, through his chief of police, Theodore Frezieres, he told residents that any sort of disturbance would result in the execution of the offending individuals.

The proclamation contains this declaration as Aguilar's forces were entering. The decree provides that all arms must be surrendered within twenty-four hours and that failure to comply will cause the shooting of the one in whose possession a gun is found.

This flat statement caused W. W. Canada, the American consul to call at the police station, where he told Chief Frezieres that many Americans had deposited their arms with him. The consul was told that Aguilar did not intend demanding them, and, in fact, expected the consul to use his discretion in holding the guns. Americans are not exempt from the order, but in cases where the authorities are convinced their standing warrants it they will be given permits to retain their arms.

Brig. Gen. Funston and his command of six thousand infantrymen and marines, which landed here April 30, last, got under way late today and Gen. Candido Aguilar's men took charge of the city. The United States transport Cristobal, bearing the first contingent of Americans, left the dock at 1.30 P. M. for home.

The Mexicans marched in on the heels of the departing troops, but no serious disturbance occurred.

Residents of Vera Cruz who had heard of threats made by Villa followers and others opposed to Gen. Carranza that they would resist occupation of the city by Aguilar's troops breathed more freely as the Carranza soldiers moved nearer and nearer to the centre of the city.

The only unpleasant incident had no effect on the general situation. Gen. Carranza was quoted by representatives here as being displeased with the American method of delivering over the city, and as having criticised sharply failure to make a formal transfer of various departments.

Gen. Aguilar personally raised the Mexican flag over the municipal palace at 6 o'clock tonight. Infantry was drawn up in front of the building during the ceremony. A large crowd in the plaza cheered as the colors were unfurled.

Gen. Aguilar in a statement tonight said:

"I am well satisfied that this day has ended so peacefully. The Mexicans are pleased to have shown the civilized world today that Mexico is a cultured nation and is well satisfied with the whole affair. I appreciate the efforts of the American people and the government, which made it possible for the occupation to end this way."

Gen. Carranza will not arrive here for two or three days, according to Aguilar.

## FOR GREAT WHEAT CROP.

## European War Lends Extraordinary Impetus to Growing of Foodstuffs.

Washington, Nov. 24.—The greatest wheat area in the world's history will be planted for the 1915 harvest as a result of the European war, in the opinion of Charles M. Daugherty, statistical expert of the department of agriculture. In a report made public today, Mr. Daugherty says:

"As a result of the war in Europe a worldwide tendency exists to increase the acreage of wheat. Doubtless the most extensive area in the history of the world will be seeded during the present autumn and coming spring. A prospective heavy demand for this important food grain by the importing countries of western Europe is likely, if seeding conditions favor, to give extraordinary stimulus to sowing of both winter and spring varieties in the two great exporting countries of North America and to those regions now being finished under auspicious circumstances in British India.

"In Europe indications are that all available labor resources in both neutral and contending nations will be utilized to the utmost for getting in full or increased areas. In Italy, 1,000,000 acres, it is said, will be added to the crop.

"In the contending countries extraordinary efforts are being exerted in autumn seeding. The services of women and children, men exempt from military service, refugees, prisoners of war and soldiers temporarily relieved from the ranks are being utilized."

## Zapata Enters Mexico City.

Mexico City, Nov. 25.—Blanco's troops have evacuated the city and Zapata troops are entering the city.

## BIG VERDICT IN DUTTON CASE

## JURY AWARDS \$12,000 TO MRS. ELLA DUTTON AND TWO CHILDREN.

Amount is Divided into \$4,000 for Widow and Each of Little Girls—Case was Long and Hard Fought and Interesting Legal Points Were Brought.

From The Daily Item, Nov. 24.

The jury in the case of Mrs. Ella Dutton against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad company yesterday afternoon returned a verdict of \$12,000 against the defendant company, the amount being divided into \$4,000 each for the widow and for the two little girls, Mildred and Dorothy. This division was in accordance with the instructions of the trial judge.

The Dutton case has been a hard fought one from start to finish. Messrs. Jennings and Epps represented the plaintiff and Messrs. J. H. Clifton, P. A. Wilcox, L. W. McLeomore and Mark Reynolds the defendants. The case was commenced on last Wednesday morning and completed just before six o'clock yesterday afternoon. The case has been probably the most bitterly contested since the Miller case was tried in this court, the plaintiff's stating \$85,000 as the amount of damages alleged. Many interesting legal points have been brought out and argued by the attorneys and this has attracted practically all of the local bar and many other spectators throughout the case. There were also a great many witnesses on both sides.

The arguments of the attorneys to the jury were commenced on Saturday afternoon and were completed Monday before court adjourned for dinner. In the afternoon Judge Rice charged the jury, his charge consuming something more than an hour and a half. It was shown during the taking of testimony that the train was engaged on interstate traffic and in accordance with the ruling of the United States Court Judge Rice held in his charge that if Dutton's carelessness contributed partly to the accident which caused his death then the verdict which otherwise would be granted had the railroad been entirely responsible should be reduced by a proportionate amount according to the proportion his carelessness contributed toward the accident. In accordance with the request of the plaintiff's attorney he charged that if a verdict was found for the plaintiff, that it might be divided among the widow and her children as the jury thought fair, according to the loss which each had sustained.

The jury remained out just about an hour before returning with their verdict of \$12,000 against the railroad. The plaintiff stated before the case was submitted to the jury that it did not seek a monetary verdict against any of the other defendants, Banks, Grace or Hodge.

An appeal will be taken on behalf of the railroad company.

## Civil Court Adjourns.

Court of Common Pleas adjourned yesterday afternoon after a session of two weeks and Judge Rice left for his home. A fact that hastened the adjournment was the meeting of Conference, many of the attorneys being on committees to meet and send the preachers to their homes. A number of equity cases on the calendar were marked heard and Judge Rice will hear the arguments on next Wednesday, when he will stop by here for this purpose.

## MAY ASKS OFFICERS.

## Safety of United States is Being Investigated.

Washington, Nov. 22.—Representative Gardner of Massachusetts today asked Secretary Garrison to allow army officers to appear before the house rules committee in connection with Mr. Gardner's resolution to investigate the adequacy of the army and navy to protect the country. Secretary Garrison recently pointed out that the rule committee had power to summon such officers as it desired, but Representative Gardner suggested that the committee was not likely to issue the summonses if the administration disapproved.

## NAVAL STATION OFF CHILE?

## Claimed Germans Have Maintained One Near Valparaiso.

Lima, Peru, Nov. 23.—It is declared here today that the Germans have been maintaining a naval station outside of Valparaiso, Chile. Here they brought together vessels having on board coal and provisions.

Chilean papers reaching here say the government is determined to stop these breaches of neutrality even at the cost of war.

## Big Fire at Brunswick.

Brunswick, Ga., Nov. 25.—The Conkey and Parker, N. W. Findley and Santa Clara cigar stores, a three-story building, were burned this morning with a loss of \$20,000.

## SACRIFICE CATTLE FOR COTTON

## POLICY OF FARMERS CALLED SHORT-SIGHTED.

Native Beef Scarce—Cotton Seed Crushers of South Carolina are Investigating Tennessee Situation.

Columbia, Nov. 24.—The country districts of the State are being depopulated of cattle. In a few weeks there will be practically no young cattle in some of the counties. This is a deplorable state of affairs—due almost solely to the dependence of the people upon cotton as their sole money crop. The very people who are selling cattle are holding cotton.

These depressing and somewhat startling facts have been brought to light by the State department of agriculture in its investigations into the cost of living, and the inquiry if there is not a way to reduce this cost by producing at home the things necessary for the sustenance of life.

D. Brooks Miller, Main street butcher and delicatessen proprietor, talked plainly and emphatically about this matter. He declared that the prospect for months to come really is alarming. In their short sightedness farmers have been rushing their native meats on the market instead of selling their cotton and holding their meat. "It is problematical," said Mr. Miller, "whether cotton will advance in price, but there is no problem about meat advancing. The demand for meat is insistent and constant—in fact, is increasing, on account of the war. The world supply of meat was short and growing shorter every year before the war, for the great cattle ranches of the West had begun to produce fewer and fewer cattle every year, and it looked like the South was going to have an opportunity to turn some of her old hill-sides into Bermuda pastures to feed cattle for foreign markets as well as for domestic consumption. But everything seems demoralized now, and our prospects, at least in this immediate section, are becoming less and less promising.

"Why can't the farmers sell their cotton and pay their debts, or at least sell some cotton and pay some debts, instead of sacrificing cattle? Some of the stock that is butchered on this market ought never to have left the farm. The majority of it, in fact, should have stayed there, for it is too young. Cattle at 1 and 2 years does not have the beef weight that it would have with another year. There is every reason in economy for the cattle to be kept on the farm and the cotton sold. We do not like to buy this kind of cattle, but when it is thrown on the market, we take it, of course. We prefer not to encourage the sale of native beef until it is ready for the market at best advantage to the producer.

"The farms in some counties are being cleaned of cattle and for the life of me I don't see where they will get restocked for a new start. This is particularly true of Lancaster and Fairfield counties.

"In other years up to this time 60 cars of cattle have been shipped into the State from east Tennessee and North Carolina for feeding purposes, but this year there have not been over half a dozen cars. This looks bad for the future. If all of the native meat is killed out this winter, the price of beef will begin to soar out of all reach. Western North Carolina and east Tennessee are now filled with beef cattle which should be shipped into this State.

"Not 1-20th of the east Tennessee cattle are being fattened in this State this year that have been in the past. The farmers who have been buying them outright to fatten haven't the ready cash, and there has been no basis other than cash made for the fattening this winter. But something must be done to protect the consumers in this State as well as to restock the little farms throughout this section, where the people have been improvident enough to sell the very cattle that they should not have sacrificed until the very last thing. East Tennessee beef sold for 6 to 7 1-2 cents per pound on the hoof last spring, the best price it has ever brought, and the farmers who contracted for the cattle are unable to buy them. There would be a profit if they could. And my advice to the farmers is to try to raise all the beef possible and sell as little as possible for the next two or three years and change this from a consuming into a producing State."

B. F. Taylor, secretary of the Southern Cottonseed Crushers' association, confirmed Mr. Miller's observations. "We have known of this condition for three weeks or longer," said Mr. Taylor, "and have taken active steps to do what we can to correct it. There are now 20,000 beef cattle in east Tennessee awaiting shipment. Most of that great herd had been contracted for by Pennsylvania farmers who would fatten the cattle through the winter in order to get the stable manure for their farm lands. But the State of Pennsylvania has a new quarantine law which has

## FAVORS BUDGET SYSTEM.

## WILSON CONSIDERING SCHEMES FOR GOVERNMENT ECONOMY.

Recommendations for Coordination of Expense and Income to Be Included.

Washington, Nov. 23.—President Wilson is considering means for reducing government expenditures next year because of the war, it was learned today, and is aiming toward a budget system to coordinate expense and income.

In his writings before he became president Mr. Wilson advocated a budget system, including the presence in congress of the secretary of the treasury to explain the administration's estimates. He is expected to refer to this in his forthcoming message.

The president has discussed expenditures at cabinet meetings and has impressed on the secretaries the necessity for economy. He had been told, however, that the beginning of new governmental activities, such as the trade commission and the federal reserve bank system will necessitate new appropriations.

The activities of the short session really opened today when the house appropriations committee began hearings on the District of Columbia appropriation bill.

## SALEM CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

## Young Church Has Remarkable Growth in One Year.

Last Sunday evening Salem Baptist Church of Sumter celebrated its first birthday in appropriate manner. One year ago this church was organized with sixteen charter members. Sunday night the membership roll showed 99 members with 9 letters for transfers from other churches, and a Sunday school enrollment of more than two hundred.

Rev. J. W. Guy, the pastor requested Mr. P. P. Cuttino, the senior deacon to read the covenant of the congregation adopted when the church was organized. Mr. Cuttino did and took occasion to deliver an interesting discourse regarding the wonderful progress of this church during its first year of usefulness in Sumter.

Brother John S. Kennedy also by request of the pastor spoke of the history of Salem Church during its short career. Rev. Guy then went into a discussion of the church matters touching upon the wonderful growth of this church under disadvantages, and spoke in the highest terms of commendation of the loyalty and devotion of the members of the congregation and their liberality in supporting the church. He referred particularly to the ladies of the congregation who have been so faithful and who raised more than one thousand dollars extra by their special efforts.

Salem Baptist Church has indeed been a concrete example of religious endeavor success and the manner in which the little congregation has so rapidly grown to a hundred or more, and has otherwise made such great strides proves that faith, loyalty, and devotion will accomplish wonders. Rev. Guy has endeared himself to his congregation and has by his forcible, fervent, and scholarly sermons added to his reputation as a pulpit expounder of the scriptures and his faithfulness as a pastor, and as a worker have been potent factors in the growth of Salem Baptist Church and its usefulness.

made it impossible to ship the cattle into that State.

"The Pennsylvania farmers had provided for fattening the cattle with the hay and produce they had saved through the summer, but the east Tennessee people have no means to fatten the cattle except upon stuff that they must buy. I have heard of one east Tennessee ranchman who has bought cottonseed products and will fatten 1,500 head himself, but there are few in that section who are willing to do this.

"Our cottonseed oil mills have offered to take the cattle off the hands of the Tennessee farmers, paying the freight to South Carolina points and furnishing the meal and the hulls free of charge, but so far we have been unable to get over a few hundred head shipped into the State on those terms. The mills ask merely to be reimbursed for the freight and for the meal and hulls when the cattle are sold and paid for, but the east Tennessee farmers are investigating before acting. Arrangements have been made at this end to put the cattle out where they would be cared for suitably and fattened scientifically by farmers who ask nothing but the manure for the return of their services.

"W. E. West went to east Tennessee to investigate the conditions and has worked diligently on the proposition and I hope that the Tennessee farmers will take up the proposition, which to me appears fair enough. I can place 5,000 cattle before night under the terms stated above; in fact, one mill in this State would take that many and guarantee good treatment."